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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ NICOSIA 05411

STATE FOR EUR/SE, L, AND M/COMP/BP/LRP/RC

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, AMGT, CY, US
SUBJECT: ANNUAL RADIO FACILITY PAYMENT

cc:c/mod

REF: NICOSIA 1435

1. (U) DCM, ACCOMPANIED BY FBIS BUREAU CHIEF, ON OCTOBER 17 DELIVERED ANNUAL RADIO FACILITY PAYMENT TO MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL MAVROMMATIS. DIPLOMATIC NOTE ACCOMPANYING PAYMENT ASKED FOR WRITTEN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GOC RECEIPT OF THE PAYMENT, AND DCM ALSO STRESSED THIS POINT ORALLY. MAVROMMATIS PROMISED AN EARLY RESPONSE

2. (C) MAVROMMATIS RAISED THE ISSUE OF REVIEWING THE ANNUAL PAYMENT (SEE REF). DCM WAS NONCOMMITTAL, BUT SAID HE WOULD PASS ON TO WASHINGTON ANY PROPOSAL THE GOC CARED TO PRESENT. MAVROMMATIS INDICATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD REVIEW THE MATTER, AND DECIDE ON A COURSE OF ACTION BY THE END OF NOVEMBER. HE FRANKLY ADMITTED THAT A GOC PROPOSAL TO NEGOTIATE WOULD REQUIRE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL CLEARANCE, SINCE THE GOVERNMENT MIGHT DEEM IT UNWISE TO HIGHLIGHT THE PRESENCE OF THE FBIS FACILITY.

3. (C) COMMENT: MAVROMMATIS WAS FRIENDLY AND RELAXED. HIS COMMENTS ABOUT RENEGOTIATION OF THE PAYMENT LACKED ANY REAL FORCE, AND HE MADE CLEAR THAT THE GOC HAS NO PROBLEM AT ALL WITH THE PRESENCE OF THE FBIS FACILITY IN CYPRUS. END COMMENT.

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PERRIN

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